IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please substitute the following paragraph (line 31, page 2 through line 2, page 3) in the specification for the same paragraph in the application:

Therefore, the present novel invention differs from those in the prior art because it permits numerous nails of different size, length or width to be placed in the half conical shaped slots in the hammer face and back throat, retained magnetically, and ready to be struck on a surface. In addition, it includes a hammerhead with a curved claw body, curved claws enabling removal of nails without damaging the nailed surface, and an indentation in the neck of the hammer.

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Please substitute the following paragraph (lines 4-14, page 3) in the specification for the same paragraph in the application:

The present invention embodies a novel ergonomic side-load nail holding hammer. The elements of this invention are a striking tool or hammer comprised of:

a) A handle.

b) A hammerhead having an eye (10), a pair of curved claws (6), a curved claw body (7), throat (8), neck with an indentation (3) and striking face (2). The curved claws (6) have a small curved claw end (5a) and a larger curved claw end (5b), both to be used for nail digging and removal.

c) Having said face (2) and throat (8) a nail holder and nail starter comprised of numerous half conical shaped vertical slots (such as 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1e) permitting placement of numerous nails of diverse size, length and width; and having small magnets (9) attached or drilled on their sides, which shall magnetically attract the nails to the sides of such slots.

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Please substitute the following paragraph (lines 3-6, page 4) in the specification for the same paragraph in the application:

Yet another advantage of this invention is that it includes a nail-straightening slot. The half conical shaped vertical slots (such as 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1e) not only hold the nails for hammering and serve as a nail starter, but also maintain the nails in a straight position and therefore straighten them when they are hammered.

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Please substitute the following paragraph (lines 28-30, page 4) in the specification for the same paragraph in the application:

FIG. 3 is a bottom view of the hammerhead, including the bottom part of the face (4), the nail holder/starter including diverse half conical shaped nail slots (1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1e) for nails of different sizes, and the eye (10).

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Please substitute the following paragraph (lines 3-7, page 5) in the specification for the same paragraph in the application:

FIG. 5 is a side view of the hammerhead and includes a rounded claw body (7), the eye (10), the throat (8), neck indentation (3), and the nail starter/holder at the face (2) and throat (8) including numerous half conical shaped nail slots (1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1e) and magnets (9). In addition, it has a larger view of a nail slot (1c) illustrating the half conical design of the nail slot, as well as a larger view of the magnets (9).

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Please substitute the following paragraph (lines 9-21, page 5) in the

specification for the same paragraph in the application:

The present invention embodies an ergonomic, magnetic, side-load nail holding hammer. The elements of one embodiment of this invention are:

(a) A handle made of materials such as but not limited to metals such as but not limited to titanium; wood; fiberglass, rubber, plastic, or man made materials.

(b) A hammerhead made of metals such as but not limited to titanium and iron, having an eye (10), a pair of curved claws (6), a curved claw body (7), a throat (8), neck with an indentation (3), and striking face (2). As best shown in FIGS. 2 and 5, the indentation (3) is adapted for allowing the head of a larger-sized nail or of a longer-length nail to be positioned about the indentation (3). This indentation (3) feature allows the hammer of the present invention to make a more accurate initial or starter strike to the head of the nail when the hammer is used since the indentation (3) and neck provide more stability to the nail being releasably retained there. The curved claws (6) have a small curved claw end (5a) and a larger curved claw end (5b), both used for nail digging and removal.

(c) Having said face (2) and throat (8) a nail holder and starter comprised of numerous nail half conical design vertical slots (such as 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1e) for holding nails, permitting placement of nails of diverse size, length and width. In one embodiment and as best shown in FIGS. 2, 3, and 5, slot 1a is positioned about a corner of the top surface of the face (2), slots 1b, 1c, 1d are positioned about the side surfaces of the face (2), and slot (1e) is positioned about the bottom surface of the face (2). These slots have small magnets (9) attached or drilled to their sides or in them; therefore magnetically attracting the nails to said slots. These slots are also used for starting and straightening nails when hammering and as a self-releasing groove.

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Please substitute the following paragraph (line 23, page 5 through line 4, page 6) in the specification for the same paragraph in the application:

The present invention embodies an ergonomic, magnetic, side-load nail holding hammer. The elements of one embodiment of this invention are:

(a) A handle made of materials such as but not limited to metals such as but not limited to titanium; wood; fiberglass, rubber, plastic, or man made materials.

(b) A hammerhead made of metals such as but not limited to titanium and iron, having an eye (10), a pair of curved claws (6), a curved claw body (7), a throat (8), neck with an indentation (3), and striking face (2). The curved claws (6) have a small curved claw end (5a) and a larger curved claw end (5b), both used for nail digging and removal.

(c) Having said face (2) and throat (8) a nail holder and starter comprised of numerous nail half conical design vertical slots (such as 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1e) for holding nails, permitting placement of nails of diverse size, length and width. These slots have small magnets (9) attached or drilled to their sides or in them; therefore magnetically attracting the nails to said slots. These slots are also used for starting and straightening nails when hammering and as a self-releasing groove.

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